

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
BUREAU OF BIOLOGICAL SURVEY

Form Bi-689

FIELD DIARY

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(Official title.)

Period, *July 3, 1926* to \_\_\_\_\_

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July 3, 1924  
Left Washington 3:10 PM for  
Yellowstone Park.  
Hot and dry

July 4, Arrived Chicago 9 AM.  
Left Chicago 10:35 AM.  
Cool and fresh and good crops.  
along the way.  
Wausau in PM.  
Dark soon after leaving Wausau.

July 5, Daylight at Detroit, Mich.  
Breakfast at Fargo at 7 AM.  
Very hot and crops poor across  
Dakota. Many lakes dry, few birds,  
no muskrat signs of life, few  
ground squirrels.  
Badland country very dry  
dark at Miles City

July 6. Arrived at Livingston 3 AM  
and left at 9 AM. Reached  
Gardiner at 11 and Mammoth at 12.  
Set beaver traps in Ice Lake, better  
called Golden Eye Lake, after supper

July 7. Caught a 30 lb. beaver and brought  
up to hotel for everybody to see and  
photograph. Then took it back to  
its home pond, where they have a  
house and family. We saw two large and one  
small beaver swimming in the pond just after  
sundown, also an old Canada goose &  
a family of old & young golden eyes & etc.  
Sawyer says there are muskrats in this  
pond, some of them living in the beaver houses.  
The beaver taken had lost most of its fur  
and much of the long hair and was about as  
thin and ragged as they ever get.  
Could see rare skin on its back and it  
was faded to a pale ochreous brown.  
When released on the bank of the lake

back some 150 feet from the shore it sat and sniffed all round for a minute, then started straight for the water and through the water straight for its house half way up the pond. He went slowly and not as if frightened.

The Citellus elegans were numerous along the railroad up to Emigrant Station and beyond for a few miles and then Citellus armatus began a little below Gardiner and were equally abundant, fairly swarming in places and very tame. At Mammoth Hot Springs they are right among the houses and on the streets and sidewalks. I counted 23 in one dooryard at one time, most doors to the rear stairs above the big hotel. The white clover was very fresh and green and well watered in this yard and they came in to get this supper. The yard was probably 100 feet square.

The young were about half grown and getting fat, the prettier ones yellow still. The old ones looked pretty fat. They were feeding largely on grass seeds as well as clover and other green vegetation. Their sharp, birdlike chick was heard all along the roads and wherever they were. Many are killed by passing automobiles.

Thosorex palustris navigator was seen in the half empty concrete reservoir just up the Sepulchre Mtn. trail where it had fallen in and could not get out. It was darting and swimming about, diving and popping up dry and velvety again out of the water, sometimes bringing up mud from below and eating it on a floating shingle or hunting flies or insects over the surface of floating boards & shingles, then returning to a well eaten Athetis that lay on a piece of board. Its motions were so quick and insect like that it hardly seemed

like a man. It had no nest or shelter so I tied up some big grass balls and dropped down on the floating boards to give it a comfortable home until I return and take it with me for study.

Marmota f. neosophora? are common along the roads but I never saw one. Mammoth and Dr. Connor says they have been killed off because they did so much damage, digging in yards and eating gardens and flowers.

Lepus campestris are common over the prairie where they come out and feed in the afternoon and are so tame I walked up to 10 feet of one but did not have a camera.

Coronellius M. pallidus were found hanging to the walls of the Devil's Kitchen in small numbers, not over a dozen seen, one bunch of 4 or 5 and the rest singly on the walls or flying.

Urotrichus carastina were not found tho I looked carefully.

Peromyscus m. gaudichii are said to be troublesome about the buildings and I saw two back of the museum that had been thrown out in the road.

July 7  
Left Mammoth Hot Springs at  
8:15 AM and reached Old  
Faithful at noon by bus.  
Cold & windy and not much wild life  
to be seen except one fine old  
bull elk in Gibbon Meadows near  
the road with big velvet horns.  
Went to the Camp and located  
in cabin 308, north of the camp  
office and facing Old Faithful.  
Found a family of half grown  
woodpeckers sitting on my porch  
and when I scattered rolled  
oats and crackers I soon had  
lots of woodpeckers, a Cedar sparrow,  
white crowned sparrow and a  
tanager feeding on a close to  
my boardings.  
Got out & set traps in afternoon  
and and saw 2 or 3 black bears  
at garbage pile in evening.

Manual Catalogue

July

1. <i>Microtus nanus</i>	♀	160, 41, 21,	Old Faithful, July 8.
2. " "	♂	162, 40, 21,	" "
3. " "	♂	158, 40, 20,	" "
4. <i>Sorex</i>	♀	110, 46, 13,	" "
5. <i>Eutamias lateralis</i>	♂	215, 91, 30	" 9 "
6. <i>Microtus nanus</i>	♂	168, 37, 20,	" 70-8
7. " "	♂	172, 40, 20,	" 10
8. " "	♀	165, 35, 20	" "
9. <i>Thomomys pusillus</i>	♀	209, 64, 27	" 11
10. <i>Peromyscus</i>	♂	146, 46, 21,	" "
11. <i>Sorex</i>	♂	100, 41, 14,	" "
12. "	♂	100, 41, 14,	" "
13. <i>M. drummondi</i>	♀	175, 40, 20,	McPhee G. 12
14. <i>C. armatus</i>	♀	260, 45, 40,	" "
15. <i>Sorex</i>	♀	110, 42, 12,	Shoshone Lake, 17.
16. "	♀	115, 42, 14,	" "
17. <i>Thomomys</i>	♂	182, 53, 24,	" "
18. <i>Zapus</i>	♀	250, 150, 31,	" "
19. <i>Fiber</i>	♂	420, 180, 70,	McPhee Hart Lake
20. <i>Peromyscus</i>	♂	150, 45, 20	" "
21. <i>Microtus maysi</i>	♀	272, 60, 26	July 22, "
22. <i>Eutamias</i>	♀	137, 35, 17,	24. Harrell Cr.

July 8. Caught 5 *Microtus nanus* or *caryi*, and one little shrew & a chipmunk, *luteiventer*. Reset the traps and made up a few skins.

About 4 PM a snowshoe rabbit came out and sat in front of my cabin and ate grass tops.

July 9 Set traps along creek for water shrews but caught none. Went over to west side of valley and found *Ochetomys* in the big slide rock talus.

July 11 Caught 2 more little *Sorex obscurus*; a *Thomomys* and *Peromyscus* but no water shrews. Took up traps and made up specimens for an early start in morning.

Entomia virginans - Old Faithful M.M.P.

On July 8 found a garter snake, about 16 inches long that showed a bulge middly ad on cutting it open found 3 well grown nestlings of the white crowned sparrow in its stomach. They were well pin feathered and easily recognized.

July 12, Left Old Faithful at 7:30 AM for the Lower Geysers Basin to meet the Sierra Club party, coming in from West Yellowstone. We camped just below the ridge on the south side of the creek in a clean grove of Lodgepole pine.

While making camp some one saw a weasel run up a tree so I climbed up ad after chasing it through the tops of many trees I succeeded in snaring it ad bringing it down for the whole party to see ad photograph ad take moving pictures of. Then made a cage from a tin can, caught 5 meadow mice for its supper ad kept it for others to see. Louis carried it on to the Old Faithful camp.

Yellowstone Nat. Park, 1926

23. Entomus pictus, ♂, 185, 64, 28; 15, Aug. 1, ~~1926~~, Canyon Camp.

July 13. Broke camp and picked up the Firehole Valley to Old ~~faithful~~ about 10 miles and made camp on both sides of the river just above the last buildings of the Yellowstone Camp. Have a dozen hot springs in camp so we can get water of any temperature or for any purpose. A warm day but rained in evening, but a damp night but not very cold.

July 14, Spent one day at Old Faithful Camp, hiked and repacked our baggage for tomorrow's pack train, sent off my specimens to the Park Museum, and in evening had a big entertainment in the new Out door Theater of the Y.P.C. Rained a trifle in P.M. but cleared up in night.

Let my tame weasel go because no one would bother to take it down to Mammoth.

July 15,

~~July 15~~ Hiked over to west end of Shoshone Lake on trail about 12 or 15 miles, and camped among the hot springs and geysers. Passed Mimantwawa pond about midway of the trail before crossing the continental divide close to the trail on the east side. It is a small pond of

July 15, Had breakfast at 5:30 packed up and started for Shoshone Lake at 6:30 over the Howard Eaton Trail past Star geyser and across the continental divide some 500 or 600 feet above the valleys. Good trail and easy going.

About halfway and before reaching the summit we passed a shallow pond on the east side of the trail where the most wonderful pond lilies grow, 3 or 4 inches across, deep yellow with blood orange back of petals (sipals) and beautiful big heart shaped leaves. We photographed and collected them and named the pond Mincantwana from Thomas Bailey Aldriches beautiful poem recited by Miss Cleary as we sat by the pond, writing the name on the tree by the trail.

Camped at west end of Sloahone Lake among the hot springs and geysers. Lots of trout were caught along Sloahone Creek, many of the fishers getting their limit of 20 fine large brook trout before we reached camp. We all had a feast of fish.

July 16. Spent all day at camp and explored the lake shores and marshes and forest. Found one of the Trumpeting swans on the lake and picked up lots of moulted quill feathers along the beach. Found an eagles nest with one young on a tall tree near the lake. Saw Canada geese and lots of ducks and sandpipers.

Found a big green pool of typical alpine water near camp

July 17. Got an early start for Lewis Lake and hiked over good trail all the way through Lodgepole pines and open parks & meadows, about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  or  $1\frac{1}{4}$  miles to east side of middle of Lewis Lake and camped on shore by auto road.

A good foot bridge had been built across outlet of Shoshone Lake but the perch borders got their fillies wet in crossing.

July 18 - Staid at camp and explored Lake stems and down to Lewis Falls. Two parties went to the Tetons on trucks,

July 19, Hiked over to Hart lake, 8 miles, good trail already going, camped beyond inlet at edge of Geyser basin on shore of lake,

July 20, Explored the east side  
of Heart Lake where big marshes border  
the eastern bay and elk tracks are common.  
Found a few beaver signs but no houses or  
dams of recent origin.

Found a fine lot of big Boletus with  
the red brown tops and a few of the sulphur  
yellow Boletus which are fine delicious food.  
Also a few of the bright yellow little wood  
mushrooms which are best of all.

July 21, Went up Sheridan Peak almost to the top where big subbanks lie on the east slope down 500 feet below the peak. Found the usual set of Hudsonian and Arctic alpine plants, lots of Clark's crows, a pipit, Ochetorix etc. Got about 7 quarts of the beautiful little golden mushrooms and had them fried for supper. Were delicious.

July 22, Hiked down to Snake River and camped on Hamell Creek at the ranger station.

Saw lots of beaver work along Snake river and on the little sloughs along the side where they had several dams and a little house. They are eating low willows and cutting pines for building material.

July 23

On the Big Yarn Ridge to Fox Creek, about 12 miles, saw great numbers of elk tracks and several small herds of up to 12 elk and one herd of 200 or 300. Others who started earlier saw more elk and those who climbed the high peak at the north end of the ridge found many scattered and one bunch of about 60 elk.

Flowers were collected above timberline on the ridge and turned in to the museum at Mammoth Hot Springs but I did not have time to make a list.

Crossed Snake River and camped on Fox Creek just east of it, which here is only a small creek.

July 24. Started early at 7 o'clock to try and get photographs of game with the 3000 ft. lens. But at 10 o'clock had to give up as it was behind. Then Dr. Kinney and I struck up a trail leading up the mountain far away from the crowd who were hunting in my neck. 3000 ft. with nothing but lying out in an open park.

Crossed over two draws Platte near Mariposa Lake and down Lyre Creek to the upper Yellowstone some 2 miles below Bridge Lake and camped on east side of river.

Some bear signs seen but not a single one except by the permission.

July 23

Over Two Ocean Pass to camp on upper Yellowstone, two miles below Bridger Lake.

July 24, Remained in camp two days and explored surrounding country, some riding trips to top of ridges.

July 28 Followed down east side of Yellowstone river valley to Mountain Creek and camped where the trail crosses it. Explored up the creek and side gulches.

July 29 ~~29~~

July 30 - To Park Point on east shore of Yellowstone Lake

July 30

To Indian Pond at N.E. corner of Yellowstone Lake and camped on high open shore. Found ~~two~~ old at a half grown young Trumpeter Swans in Spring Pond, a mile before reaching camp.

July 31. To Yellowstone Canyon and camped on east side of river, half a mile above Upper Yellowstone Falls. Part came on buses & part on foot.

Aug. 3. All moved on to Mammoth and camped near the buffalo corral on Bunsen Road.

Aug. 4. Peeks Camp and the party took buses to West Yellowstone while I came out to Gardiner and Livingston

Aug. 4-7. At Livingston.  
Trapping for bison hunters

Aug. 8 - To Bismarck, N.D.  
Where I met Warden Brown  
and Alf Eastgate and showed  
them how to catch bears  
alive and handle them.

Aug. 12 - To St. Paul to  
see Game Warden Gould  
but found he was away.  
Returned to Elk River over  
Sat. & Sunday and then  
on to Bismarck.

Sept. 17. Set traps for marten in  
the lake about 10 miles south  
of Bismarck but a storm came  
up before dark and the waves  
uprooted traps so we caught nothing.

Aug. 18. Went on to Duluth where I met several woodsmen and next day drove up to Two Harbors and set the beaver trap. Got one fine beaver next morning and returned to Duluth and started in early for Marquette, Mich.

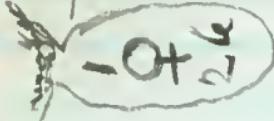
Aug. 21-23. Left Marquette Aug. 23 for Hixon Mountain Club west of Big Bay on the shore of Lake Superior where I spent 2 weeks exploring beaver country, trapping beavers alive and watching their tails, building beaver fences and houses and making a general study of beaver control methods.

Aug. 25  
From Marquette out to Big Bay  
and to Huron Mountain Club to  
continues study of beavers  
Stayed with Bayard H. Christy  
and explored the lakes and streams on  
the club property

Aug. 30. Took a live beaver to Marquette  
to show at the luncheon of the Rotary Club  
while talking about beaver farming.  
See report in Daily Mining Journal of  
Aug. 31, 1926, p. 2.

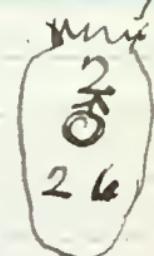
Marked beaver tails, built beaver houses  
and beaver pens. Caught 8 live  
beavers & put in Pine Lake numbered  
1 to 8. in white paint on tails.

Beavers Marked -

No. 1. ♀, 39 lbs. Left front leg gone  
Caught Aug. 26 in Second Pine Lake  
near the farm, taken to Marquette  
to Rotary Club luncheon Aug. 30,  
tail marked with white paint made of  
Dupont household cement and oxide of zinc.  
 Released in Second Pine Lake  
where caught Sept. 1.

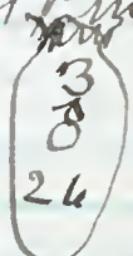
No. 2. Beaver ♂ ad. about 40 lbs.

Caught Sept. 1. near farm on Second Pine  
Lake, tail marked and released when  
taken, as soon as paint was dry  
on tail.



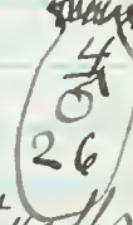
No. 3. Beaver, ♂ ad, Weight 42 lbs.

Caught Sept. 4 in Pine River below  
Lake, tail painted white and released  
the same day in First Pine  
Lake



No. 4. Beaver, ♂, 33 lbs.

Caught Sept. 3 in Pine River below  
Lake, tail painted and released in  
Pine Lake Sept. 4.



No. 5. Beaver, ♀, mother, about 40 lbs.

Caught Sept. 2 in Pine River  
Two young caught and placed with  
her in house built for them in Pine  
Lake, Sept. 5.



Beavers marked

No. 6. Young beaver, about 9 lbs.  
Caught Sept. 1 in Pine River  
and mother caught in same place next  
day. Kept with mother at place  
with her in house in Pine Lake Sept.  
5. Sex not determined.

b  
O  
24

No. 7. Young beaver, about 8 lbs.  
Caught Sept. 5, tail walked and  
put with mother & other young in  
house in Pine lake Sept. 5. Sex  
not determined.

7  
♀

No. 8. Yearling beaver, about 25 lbs  
Sex not determined. Caught in  
Pine River Sept. 5, marked and  
put in N.W. corner of lake meadow  
beaver house. same day.

8  
O  
26

Sept. 5. Went over to Pine  
Lake and helped Mr. Carroll  
Paul build a beaver house on  
the rocky north shore of the lake  
when there is plenty of aspen.  
Found most of the shore too rocky  
or too sandy for beaver houses  
and will have to build soft  
or pile houses for them.

Sept. 7

Found a large beaver in  
one of my traps in Pinion  
and took one of the traps,  
leaving the beaver and a trap  
with Mr. Harris

Left the Hailey Mountain Club  
at 11 AM and arrived at Margenthal  
in time for the Weekly luncheon  
of the Rotary Club at which  
Col. Greely talked on forestry.

In PM went out with the  
editor of the Mining Journal and his  
father-in-law to inspect a very  
promising beaver farm about 8 miles  
NW of Margenthal.

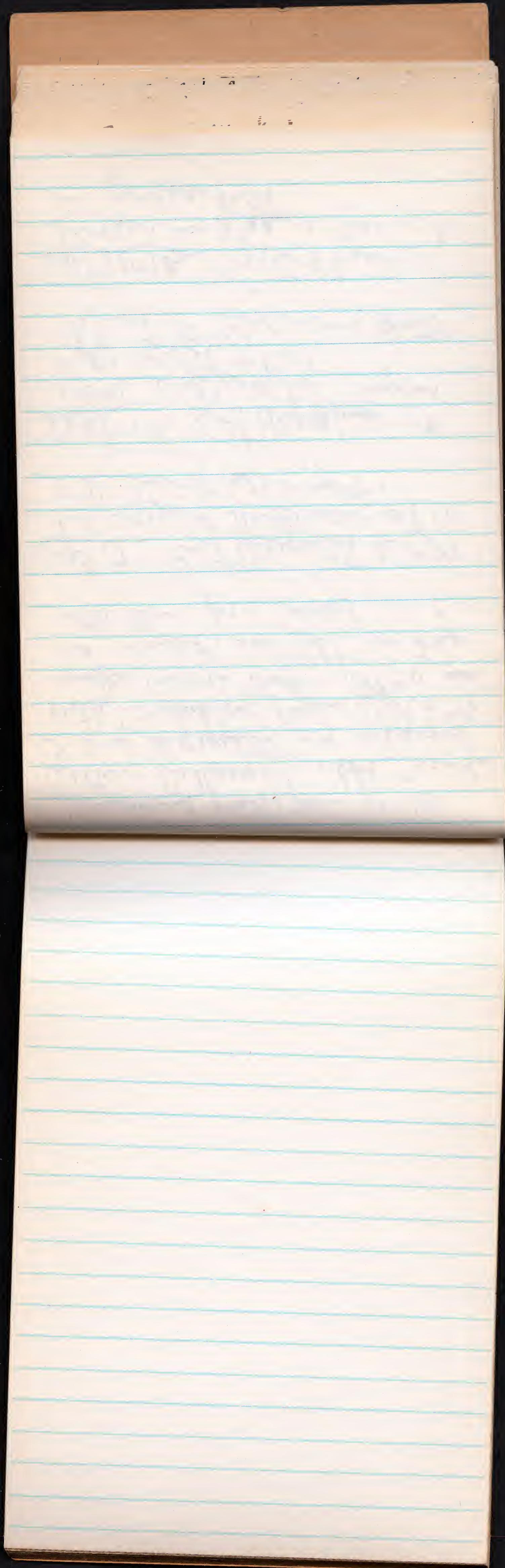
Several other people came to the  
hotel to talk over beaver farms

Sept. 8. Examined beaver traps for Mr. Arthur Billanger, about 7 miles S E of Marquette and arranged with Lakestone Engine Works to make beaver traps at \$20 each as needed, and left my trap with them for a model.

Sept. 9. Left Marquette 2 P.M. and arrived Mackinaw at 10 P.M. staid all night.

Sept. 10. Left Mackinaw at 1 P.M. and reached Baynes City about 4 P.M. Went to Wolverine Hotel.

Sept 11 & 12. Visited beaver colonies on Wagner Creek at a portion two.



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